



12-2-2016

December 2, 2016

The Dakota Student

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Recommended Citation

The Dakota Student, "December 2, 2016" (2016). *The Dakota Student*. 88.
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Immigration Discussion



Sabrina Balamwalla (center), assistant professor of law at UND, speaks during an immigration question and answer event Tuesday afternoon at the Loading Dock. Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Post-election Q&A session on immigration held at the Loading Dock

Liz Kacher

The Dakota Student

Various faculty members along with some students gathered together yesterday in the Loading Dock for a Q&A on Immigration Post-Election.

President-elect Donald Trump has voiced his intentions for dramatic immigration reform. Back in September, Trump told CNN about his platform on immigration.

"For those here illegally today who are seeking legal status, they will have one route and one route only," Trump said. "To return home and apply for re-entry like everybody else under the rules of the new legal immigration system."

Panelists were available to offer their insight on issues about immigration that may affect some of the students at the

university. Throughout the hour long Q&A, the audience asked a wide variety of questions.

Panelists for the session included various immigration advisors from different departments around campus. The panelists included Sabrina Balamwalla (School of Law), Bella Hettich (ELS at UND), Kit Johnson (School of Law) and David Nguyen (College of Education & Human Development).

David Nguyen offered some insight on Deferred Action for Childhood Activists (DACA), since President-elect Trump has expressed his intentions to terminate the executive action signed into law by President Obama in 2012.

Termination of DACA could affect some students who are undocumented and currently supported by the DACA program. Nguyen said 750,000 people could be affected by the

termination of DACA. He explained the history of DACA, since many members of the audience weren't familiar with the executive action.

"One of President Obama's campaign platforms during the 2008 election was to pass comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level," Nguyen explained. "In 2012, into his second term, he figured out it was going to be difficult to do that. So he took executive action to basically correct prosecutorial discretion."

DACA gives undocumented immigrants an exemption from deportation as well as a renewable two-year work permit which is issued by USCIS, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, which is part of the Department of Homeland Security.

"All of this costs money," Nguyen said. "USCIS is very

dependent on application fees. Every time you have an international student, immigrant or family member that applies to USCIS, you're paying hundreds of dollars each time you send in a little one page application."

Students and undocumented immigrants pay a substantial fee for the application, which they again will pay when they renew the application in two years. Nguyen said that depending on the state, there are currently a number of benefits that allow undocumented immigrants to be part of society—just like everyone else.

DACA helps children whose parents brought them into the country; they grow up being completely immersed in American culture with a desire of achieving the American

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Norwegian studies



Melissa Gjellstad, associate professor of Norwegian in the Languages department, speaks with Dakota Student reporter Jacob Notermann on Monday, November 28, 2016. Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

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Volleyball postseason preview



Alley Stroh / Dakota Student

Tamika Brekke (center) bumps the ball during a match against Idaho at the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center on Nov. 5. The Fighting Hawks take on Minnesota today in the first round of the NCAA volleyball tournament in Minneapolis, Minn.

Sports | 7

Searching for creativity

Haley Olson

The Dakota Student

With the spring term right around the corner, the English department is facing a crucial dilemma within the department.

With currently, 16.5 professors hired within UND, that number will be dropped down to 15.5 professors for Spring of 2017. Within these professors, the creative writing department will have an absence of hired professors to teach the course. Leaning on graduate students to teach the introductory level course.

With this absence, UND has been making cuts within the department; partly with the outcome that the budget cut made in the Spring of 2016 was made final.

To go along with the cut of professors, UND has decided to cut traveling funds.

Professors are now expected to travel and partake in academic work and conferences, but on their own terms.

"With regards to creative writing, in particular, the budget cuts have been cited as the reason that we were not able to begin the process of hiring a new creative writing faculty member earlier, once we learned of our creative writing faculty members departures," Sheila Liming, assistant professor in the English Department, said.

With about 40 graduate students within the English department, the department cannot fulfill the essential requirements to continue on with a creative writing program until positions are filled. As a result, UND is not able to accept any graduate admissions for the creative writing program.

"For the meantime, though, the fact of those absences has resulted in our inability to accept graduate students who are creative writers," Liming states. "Graduate students who focus on creative writing, specifically, will suffer in being denied dedicated support and oversight from creative writing faculty."

Though the position for creative fiction writing will be fulfilled, the poetry position will remain vacant. The courses will still be offered for interested students as long as there are graduate students or lecturers that are still within the University.

"Graduate students who focus on poetry, in particular, will continue to be underserved by departmental resources," Liming said.

Last year, UND had one creative poetry writing professor, who left based off of budget cuts and personal reasons. Not only is this cut influential at the graduate level but influences undergraduates as well.

"The budget cuts have been cited as the reason that we were not able to begin the process of hiring a new creative writing faculty member earlier."

Sheila Liming

Creative | 2

Friday

29 / 23
Cloudy



Saturday

35 / 28
Partly Cloudy




Sunday

35 / 24
Cloudy



Monday

37 / 21
Snow Showers



Tuesday

22 / 9
Snow Showers



1 | Creative

“An undergraduate English curriculum without creative writing courses is like an undergraduate chemistry curriculum without a lab component,” Liming states. “Undergraduate creative writing classes taught within the English Department at UND have historically been very popular and are usually filled.”

“This shows that there is a student demand for these classes, and student demands ought to be taken into serious consideration by university administration and faculty alike,” Liming said.

In regards to future professors, Liming and other English professors are in the midst of interviewing possible applicants. Though the department will not have the position filled for next semester, Liming hopes to have it filled for the Fall semester of 2017. As an alternative class, creative writing can be taken for a fine arts essential studies course.

Haley Olson is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at haley.l.olson@und.edu



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student
Kit Johnson (left), associate professor of law at UND, answers a question during the ‘Q&A on Immigration Post-Election’ event Tuesday afternoon at the Loading Dock.

1 | Immigration

dream—just like the rest of us.

However, it’s uncertain when President-elect Trump will take action on DACA according to Nguyen, so this leaves those 750,000 people uncertain about what’s to come in the future.

Nguyen offered his office as a safe space for students who had immigration concerned, and Bella Hettich said students who are learning English as a

second language could come to ELS for assistance.

A member of the audience asked the panel where students, faculty or staff could find answers to specific questions or resources they need. Kit Johnson provided some insight on where people can go to find answers.

Johnson explained that the pursuit of a lawyer may be a good option for those questions, since there wasn’t necessarily a centralized place where people could get their questions answered.

Johnson suggested pursuing legal help if someone who is undocumented has a criminal history, because they could potentially face issues in the future. She said every possible contact with a police officer is a good reason to go see a lawyer for advisement.

A lawyer could offer advice and establish what immigration consequences, if any that could come as a result of a criminal conviction according to Sabrina Balamwalla.

After the Q&A was

finished, panelists stuck around to answer any additional questions or concerns people have. The panelists explained that with time, more will be known about immigration post-election.

Liz Kacher is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at mary.kacher@und.edu

New evaluation system for professors at UND

Sean Cleary
The Dakota Student

UND has transitioned to another method of evaluating professor performance known as the Student Evaluation of Learning and Feedback for Instructors.

SELFI will be replacing the USAT form, which was previously used to measure student performance at UND, although both will still be used this fall. Unlike the USAT form, the SELFI will be conducted online.

According to UND’s website, the SELFI evaluations will serve three purposes:

Faculty use information from course evaluations to improve their courses and teaching methods, and to determine whether course content is meeting the needs of their students

Deans and department chairs review course evaluation data to assess both their faculty, and the value of courses offered in their department.

University committees include course evaluation data as part of faculty reviews, to determine promotion and tenure.

The SELFI was used in pilot program this summer. This academic year is viewed as a transition year, with UND aiming for Fall of 2017 to complete the transition.

In 2014, the Student Evaluation of Teaching Implementation Committee, formed by University Senate, identified several issues

with the USAT: non-normal distributions, a lack of multidimensionality, and evidence of repetitive/redundant questions. It went on to describe the USAT form as “poor or unsatisfactory.”

Following that initial report, another SETIC committee was formed to evaluate how to transition to a new system. This committee was composed of representatives from UND’s faculty, staff and student body. Blake Andert, current UND student body vice-president, served as the student’s representative on the committee.

“This is something I saw that could potentially be a big benefit on campus and a big benefit to the student body,” Andert said, who has been volunteering his time on the project for close to a year.

This committee issued their final report on the SELFI this fall. They conducted a series of focus groups throughout the fall of 2015 to get feedback on the new evaluation. Using this feedback, they generated another proposed version of the evaluation, which again was subject to feedback from focus groups and revision.

Andert said that the committee also reviewed methods used at similar institutions and attempted to tailor them to UND.

During the focus group process, the report noted that some faculty were concerned with how these evaluations, including the

current USAT form, would be used.

“Interestingly, the value of its use was split, with some participants seeing how it can be used for summative and formative feedback, while others were concerned about how the university will use these forms and whether or not they will be used in a punitive manner,” the report said.

Andert noted that switching to an online process would allow for UND to more quickly and efficiently analyze the data

from the survey.

The Student Evaluation of Educational Quality (SEEQ) questionnaire developed by Herbert Marsh in 1982, widely seen as one of the most valid methods for students to analyze teacher performance, served as the basis of the SELFI.

According to the SETIC report, “In terms of validity, SEEQ ratings significantly correlate with faculty evaluations of own teaching, student performance on exams, and trained external observers.” Several of the questions from this original

questionnaire were changed throughout the committee’s process.

In the final report produced by SETIC, the committee members noted that several of the questions were dropped to reduce the number of the items on the evaluation or because the questions were too subjective.

The three open-ended questions at the conclusion of the USAT form will be retained in the new SELFI. Faculty are also able to add questions to the survey if they wish.

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The Dakota Student is a student-operated newspaper published by the university of North Dakota.

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of UND or the administration, faculty, staff and student body of UND.

The Dakota Student is published every Tuesday and Friday during the academic year except during holidays, vacation breaks and exam periods.

The Dakota Student is printed at Grand Forks Herald on PEFC Certified paper, using soy-based inks.

The Dakota Student welcomes feedback regarding articles and photographs, and prints corrections for articles containing factual errors.

The full report from UND on the process the university took to develop the SELFI and other information regarding the evaluation can be found at <http://und.edu/research/institutional-research/selfi/>.

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Brace yourselves, final's are coming

Emily Gibbens
Dakota Student

With Halloween, Thanksgiving and Black Friday behind us, there is one thing coming up that everyone is looking forward to, and that is Christmas. But students shouldn't get ahead of themselves dreaming about Christmas break quite yet. First, they must take on finals week.

Even with the joys of Christmas and the relief of being homework free just around the corner, the last couple weeks of the semester always tend to be the most stressful as big deadlines approach, important final tests grow closer and grades are becoming harder and harder to raise.

Although it is important to study hard and focus your energy on school, it is also essential to manage all of the stress and make sure not to overdo it.

Some stress is okay, and is even good, but when not managed properly, it can take its toll on anyone. When scared, nervous, or stressed our body is programmed to release hormones that help you react due to the potential threat.

According to the Mayo Clinic website, "Without stress management, all too often your body is always on high alert. Over time, high levels of stress lead to serious health problems."

There are some steps you can follow to make sure you are on top of your game in the weeks to come.

The most common issue students run into is procrastination. Do not procrastinate. If you steadily work on a project, write a paper, or study throughout the week, it will be a lot less

stressful than trying to cram the night before. For those who have already procrastinated themselves into panic mode. Don't worry. It's never too late to start. Give yourself a couple of undistracted hours to work, and you will be surprised at what you can accomplish.

If you feel like you're falling behind, give yourself a break from your phone and social media. Personally, the amount of time I spend distracted by my phone buzzing or playing around with silly Snapchat filters, is valuable time that I know I should have been putting towards homework. When a phone is sitting next to you, the temptation is too strong, so just set it in a different room, and get to work.

Feeling overwhelmed is very common in the last couple weeks of a semester. Don't be afraid to reach out to others for help. The best person to help you understand the material is your professor, but sometimes just talking to a friend or a family member can really lift a weight off of your shoulders. They might even be willing to help you study or have a few tips to share with you.

Get some sleep. Pulling all-nighters to finish last-minute work isn't helping anyone. The quality of work won't be your best, and you'll be wearing yourself out. The last thing anyone needs is to be sick during finals week. Always take care of yourself.

When I am very busy, one of my favorite things to do is to fill in a calendar full of my due dates and test days. It's much

easier for me to understand what I have to get done when I can look right at it. Plus, nothing beats the accomplishing feeling of crossing a daunting task off of a list or calendar.

It may seem like there's so much to do with so little time to do it, but while you're in study mode, don't forget to give yourself some breaks here and there.

If you're searching for something to do during a study break, UND is hosting events all week to help you relax and have a little fun. On Wednesday, Dec. 7, there will be a Destress Fest to help students gather themselves before finals. The Destress Fest will include activities for students, and there will even be dogs there to pet and play with. On Friday, Dec. 9, students are able to get a free day-long pass to swim at the Canad Inns waterpark. At 11 a.m., there will be human battleship in the Hyslop pool. There will also be free tickets available in the Memorial Union for students to see a movie at River Cinema 15 in East Grand Forks for free on Friday and Saturday night. To see the full list of events, check out the UND Student Life Facebook page.

With or without these techniques, tips, and Destress Fests, I am optimistic that we will all make it through finals week. Push through, try your best, and know that it will be over very soon.

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With great power comes great responsibility

Sean Cleary
Dakota Student

With the dust beginning to settle from the election results, people are now turning their attention towards what the implications will be, both locally and nationally.

At the state level, Republicans have grown their control of the legislature and retained control of nearly every statewide office. While this sort of control over state politics is nothing new — the GOP has controlled both chambers of the state legislature since 1995 and the governorship since 1992 — a majority of North Dakota voters have clearly trusted Republicans to work to better the state.

There will be plenty to do.

The issues surrounding the Dakota Access Pipeline will need to be resolved, and no easy solution is in sight. Protesters have vowed not to give up, despite an evacuation notice from Governor Dalrymple and worsening weather conditions. The protests have cost the state millions of dollars, people's lives are in danger and there is growing distrust between tribal and state leaders. None of these things are ideal.

If tax revenue continues to decline, the state will once again need to balance the budget. As last year's allotment showed, cutting budgets isn't exactly the most painless thing. UND saw this first hand, where we still see calls to bring back programs that were cut during the budget process. The state will have to find a way to allocate less revenue more efficiently, maintaining investment in areas that important to the future of the state, like infrastructure and education.

The interest from the

Legacy fund will be available in June 2017; the fund currently has close to \$3.7 billion in it from oil and gas revenues. This money could provide a way to ease some of the difficulties associated with budget cuts, but it shouldn't be seen as a free license to keep unnecessary spending. After all, even after the last round of allotments, the state's budget is still much larger than it was pre-oil boom.

More broadly, the state's economy will likely to continue to struggle if commodity prices remain low. There is no way around it; the way North Dakota's economy as it exists today is dependent on the price of oil and agricultural commodities.

Median farm income fell to \$18,999 in 2015 from \$54,666 in the previous year, according to the NDSU extension service. While oil production has only slightly dipped, the economic benefits associated with drilling have gone down considerably as low prices has slowed the development of new wells.

The state's gross domestic product — a widely used economic measure of the total dollar value of all goods and services produced in a certain time frame — shrank by 2.1 percent over 2015. This is at a time when the rest of the country grew modestly by 2.4 percent. North Dakota, once an island of financial security during the Great Recession, has struggled to find its way as the rest of the country has regained its footing.

While the state is blessed with natural resources, policymakers will need to find a way to diversify the economy if the state is going to have more sustainable growth. This is easier said than done, and it's not something that people should expect the government to be able

to magically accomplish unilaterally. Rather, government should provide an environment in which North Dakotan workers and businesses can flourish.

The state should strive to be a place where people want to live and businesses want to open. While certainly helpful, this doesn't just mean tinkering with the tax code and business regulations. The state once again was near the top of hate crimes committed per capita, according to data from the FBI. People in North Dakota can still be discriminated against on the basis of their sexual orientation. While the causes and solutions to these issues are multifaceted and complicated, they certainly warrant serious consideration from our state's elected officials.

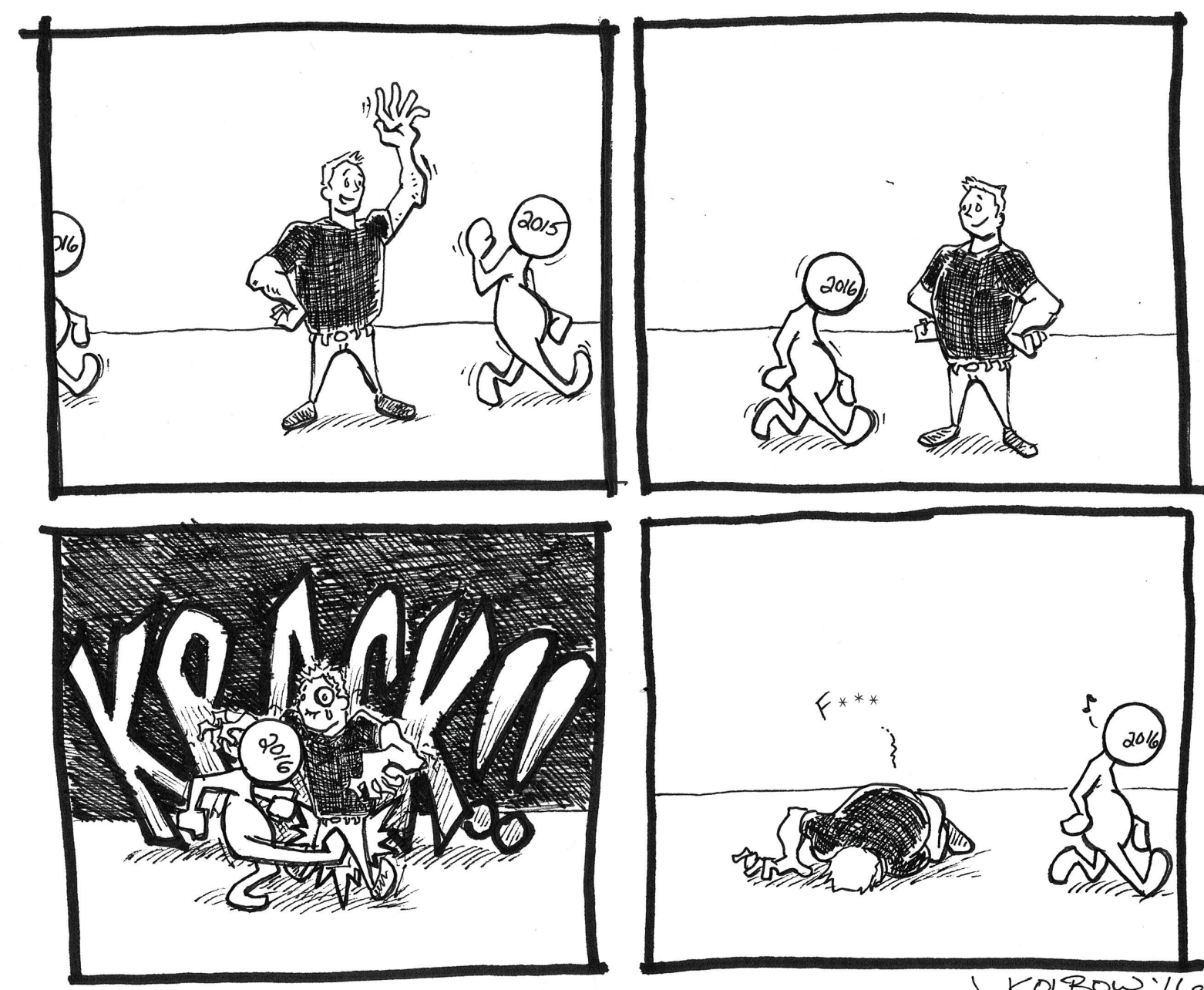
In a few short weeks, the state's Legislature will convene for the 2017 session; the state is much different place than it was the last time they met. Despite some of the recent trends in North Dakota's economy, I'm optimistic the state will be able to meet the challenges in front of it.

This will require common sense leadership from our state's elected officials. Even though Republicans clearly control state government for the time being, there is still room for bipartisan solutions; a good idea is a good idea, regardless of the party that proposes it.

This means getting the fundamentals right; encouraging a good business environment and spending within our means as well as looking forward to the future, working to build a North Dakota where students want to stay after they graduate and families want to raise their kids.

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Green Rabbit Press Comic #7



Editorial Policy

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The Dakota Student is looking for talented writers to apply for this and next semester. Join a team dedicated to bringing the news to the UND campus and

Illustration by Joshua Kolbow/ Green Rabbit Press Comics

Opinion | Wisdom from the elders

Nick Sallen
Dakota Student

Throughout my summer spent in residency at the Steger Wilderness Center, I met a couple of master artists in their respective crafts.

The Steger Wilderness Center is a sight to behold. Situated in the boreal forest of northern Minnesota, it's a towering yet earth-friendly which utilizes solar panels to collect nearly all the energy used at the center.

Will Steger, my boss, is a master carpenter, architect, environmental educator and a world-renown explorer. For nearly three decades Steger has been building his own wilderness sanctuary which aims to engulf visitors in nature. Steger is a do-it-yourself kind of guy whose self reliance, knowledge, humility and willpower (pun intended) has inspired myself and many residents to work hard helping him construct his dream. Steger wants to create a transformative wilderness experience that will inspire and motivate new discoveries and bold action to improve the world. All of his accomplishments in life lead to the Steger Wilderness Center, the legacy he wants to leave for all future generations.

John Ratzloff, on the other hand, is a professional photographer who

has been capturing moments in time through the lens of his Canon 5d. His charming enthusiasm, caring spirit and grace in conversation brings great vibes to the community.

Together, the other summer interns, work crews and a few volunteers spent part of their summer living in a close-knit community, miles away from the nearest town on a lake bordering the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Together, we have been adding to a center which requires communal reliance and cooperation.

The purpose of the Steger Wilderness Center is "inspiring wonder and awe," Ratzloff says.

I fondly remember ending many of my summer nights talking to Ratzloff. We often shared a view of the evening sunset radiating across the cobalt waters of Pickett's Lake.

In June, I was tasked with building a few stone walls out of glacial boulders and Ely greenstone. Building a wall out of rock and quikrete, I developed a deep appreciation for rocks with good "faces" and 90 degree angles, which greatly helped our crew build a straight wall out of very irregularly shaped boulders.

"When you're setting a stone, think about the space above it... Think about the stone that's go-



Photo courtesy of John Ratzloff

The Steger Wilderness Center lies just north of Ely, Minnesota.

ing to go on top of the one you're actually setting, because that stops you from creating problem spots that only a very specific stone can get you out of." Stonemasonry instructor Ian McKiel said.

In three short months, I learned the basics of carpentry and stonemasonry. I hope to use these skills after graduation, should I ever follow through with building my own house.

But I also gained some good life wisdom from people with very unique life experiences. Some of Steger's most harrowing

stories had valuable life lessons nestled between the dangers he faced and the hard decisions he's had to make.

Ratzloff was a failed businessman before choosing to capture moments in time with his camera. His story taught me how to enjoy the little things in life that are easy to overlook or take for granted, and to enjoy the present moment with all the good company.

When I was a child, I thought adulthood would be a blessing where I would figure things out and see the greater point

to life. Ratzloff reminded me that adults are similar to kids, nobody has it figured out. We're all just trying to be happy and surround ourselves with people who mesh well

with us while avoiding any pain.

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Truth and Reconciliation

Courtney Souvansacd
and Micheal Hendrickson

Students from the University of North Dakota Accounting 494 Ethics class have recently collaborated with several American Indian students to talk about social, historical and cultural issues related to American Indian people. They have worked under the guidance of Michael Hendrickson, Executive in Residence ethics instructor, and Courtney Souvannasacd, formerly American Indian Student Services Administrative Assistant.

These meetings were initiated to create dialogue about racial assumptions, the regrettable treatment of American Indian people throughout United States history, and ultimately, to discuss equitable solutions in the context of a unified campus community.

American Indians are the largest minority group with five tribal reservations in North Dakota representing just over five percent of the population. Although they are the largest minority group, conversations with American Indian students reveal that they are treated as "less than", they feel misunderstood and that their culture and heritage are seen as unimportant. That can change.

Students have committed to write a series of articles that will be organized in a timeline of past, present and future with various topics about the truth including the Doctrine of Discovery, broken treaties, boarding schools, and denigrating stereotypes and articles about healing through achieving campus and community inclusiveness.

The approach adopted by the students mimics the

Truth and Reconciliation concepts adopted in South Africa following the end of apartheid in 1990. The South African approach, which was championed by Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, was an endeavor to heal through remorse on the part of the perpetrators and forgiveness on the part of those victimized. Their approach taught us that true healing occurs only when there is an admission of the wrong and a corresponding forgiveness by the victim.


Like the black people in South Africa, the pain of discrimination felt by American Indians is real and occurs on our campus and in the surrounding community. In exploring the American Indian students' stories, there are parallels in the struggle to have a voice and credibility in the face of prejudice and racism. Although sharing their stories has been difficult, it is not a cry for sympathy, but a call for understanding.

An important part of healing is that the truth be told. We are often afraid to hear the truth because the truth makes us feel like we need to do something – and maybe we do, but sometimes we just need to

acknowledge the truth and start there. That is where we seem to be at this point in history - of acknowledging the truth because it has not been set forth accurately in our history books. Not one of us writing these articles was taught the truth in our schools. The teachings we received gave only limited information in a very generalized and romanticized way and excluded the American Indian perspective.

There is a disquiet for whites in learning that the land they call their property was obtained by force and deception. The means by which property was obtained was aided by the simple fact that the natives had no concept of property ownership. The native people felt that they were part of the land and not the lords of it. They moved with the waters and the grasses and the idea that the land would be exploited for personal use was a strange and unknown concept.

This project is not about being politically correct but about being relentlessly honest. It is time to set us all free because the truth can only hurt us if we keep it hidden in the dark. As the Bible says – the truth shall set you free.



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Features | Major of the week

Norwegian Studies

Jacob Notermann
The Dakota Student

It's getting to be that time of year when snow begins to blanket UND's campus. A time for last-minute panicking over finals, remembering to pack clothes before traveling back home and getting ready for Santa Claus to visit.

For some students at UND, getting close to the North Pole is just part of their studies.

The two main components of the program, as one can imagine, are the linguistic and cultural aspects of Norway. UND Associate Professor for the Norwegian program, Melissa Gjellstad, tries to keep these two aspects as one.

"Learning a language is learning culture all the time; you can't separate those," Gjellstad said.

Gjellstad covers the cultural courses on Norwegian literature, plays and their best-seller: a course on Vikings. These courses don't require any prerequisites, so those interested from all corners of the academic world are welcome.

And don't worry, non-Norwegian speakers. These courses are taught in English.

The program has both a major and a minor that are advertised as complementary to a wide variety of majors.

Just ask UND Senior Wayne Knain. With Knain's Norwegian major, he is also majoring in information



Associate professor Melissa Gjellstad (center) and Steven Finney (right) teach Norwegian language courses within the Languages department at UND.

systems. Knain is originally from the small town of Reynolds, North Dakota, but for him, Norway is in his backyard.

Knain has a Norwegian family heritage. His grandfather would even speak Norwegian to them, on occasion.

Despite the early exposure to the culture, Knain didn't pursue a Norwegian major until after he had begun his college studies.

Knain originally started as an accounting major, which he planned on accomplishing in five years. He decided to fill his time with another major, Norwegian.

"I had started taking Norwegian classes. Next

thing I know, my teacher who had studied abroad was talking to us about Norway and I was thinking 'that sounds pretty cool,'" Knain said.

Studying abroad is a notable part of the program. UND's program also partners with a variety of institutions in Norway as part of a student exchange program, one that both UND's law and medical school partake in.

For Knain, his recruitment was swift.

"I go to this study abroad fair and put my name down for Norway just so I could get information," Knain said. "Next thing I know, I'm signing my name saying I'm going."

There, Knain took

classes in Norwegian music, language and politics.

For many students, studying abroad is not only an opportunity to learn about a new country, it's also a chance to learn about the one they already live in.

"The bigger thing is that you really can't know your own country and language unless you study in another country," UND Norwegian language lecturer Steven Finney said. "You learn more about your own country than you do about the country you're visiting."

This lesson, as Knain found out, is not one easily digested.

"They call that reverse culture shock," Knain said. "Most people know what culture shock is, but reverse

culture shock is when you've been living in a new culture and you come back and kind of look down on everything. Like, nothing's really changed; you feel like you're above everybody else. I felt that so much."

This may be an early impression, for the long-term effects can be worth it.

"It makes everything richer with the comparative perspective," Gjellstad said.

There are roughly a dozen students who take the Norwegian major and another dozen who take the minor. The two-team faculty do their work to ensure that the program can complement other academic aspirations.

"It's something I didn't know I needed in my life,"

Knain said.

For the past semester, the Dakota Student has been highlighting various major programs at UND. We've covered lesser-known and newly-developed programs, as well as programs riddled with stereotypes.

Despite selecting a different major every week, there are still many more programs offered at UND with a story to tell.

If you are majoring in a program that would like to be nominated for the Major of the Week, please email jacob.notermann@und.edu with your nominated

Jacob Notermann is a staff writer for the Dakota Student. He can be reached at jacob.notermann@und.edu

Darcy's, a local gem for Grand Forks

Stephanie Hollman
The Dakota Student

It's 6:45 a.m., and upon walking into the small diner on North Washington Ave, I'm instantly awakened by the pleasant aroma of coffee and the chatter of the usual early-morning crowd that fills the bar and cozy booths.

Darcy's Cafe is the kind of small-town eatery where locals come together before their morning shifts to fuel up on some homestyle breakfast staples and chat with others about everything from the weather, how their families are doing and the happenings of Grand Forks.

Darcy's home-brewed coffee is not the strongest, but at less than \$2 a cup and with generous unlimited refills, it does the job of prepping even the sleepiest diner up for the day. The coffee, along with some conversation with any of the people in the diner, and any of the items from



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Darcy's Cafe has served homemade, comfort food to the Grand Forks community for decades.

their expanding, but still breakfast-centered menu, guarantee a pleasant start to anyone's day.

While they don't allow substitutions for the platters on their menu, there are plenty of options that will satisfy even the pickiest of eaters, and each item is delicious on their own. From sunny-side up to hard boiled, the eggs, no mat-

ter how you order them, will come out just the way that you want to.

The bacon and other meats the menu offers, such as sausage links and patties, are included in different combinations, are always savory and come in hearty servings. So savory, in fact, that they may be a little bit high on grease, but that is a part of what makes

breakfast platters so delicious.

My favorite part of their typical breakfast staples, however, are Darcy's buttermilk pancakes. At around five inches each and served in threes, they are warm and buttery, and after be-

ing slathered with their maple syrup, they are somehow reminiscent of childhood memories of weekend mornings when, after sleeping in, I would wake up to a hot and fresh breakfast courtesy of my parents.

For fifty cents more, you can add chocolates, pecans and blueberries to your pancakes, which, I can say from personal experience, is completely worth it. To spoil yourself even a little but more in the breakfast game, I suggest trying the pumpkin pancakes with pecans and icing, which is just as delicious by itself as it is with syrup.

For something off the beaten path of breakfast staples, Darcy's Cafe also offers protein and flavor-packed omelettes. Dave's Special in particular is packed with what green bell peppers, green onions, celery, diced ham, hash browns, sausage chunks, bits of

fried bacon and shreds of cheddar cheese, all contained in softly fried eggs. The Special, after being dipped in ketchup, was delicious in many ways: crispy, savory and just what the most important meal of the day needs.

Whether it's your first stop at the beginning of a long work day or you find yourself with your closest friends at the cozy diner for a relaxing weekend brunch after a long week, Darcy's is the perfect place in town to get some hot, home cooked breakfast food, freshly-brewed and bottomless coffee and conversation with the friendly locals who can't think of a Grand Forks without Darcy's Cafe.

Stephanie Hollman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at stepshollman@gmail.com

Restaurant Review



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"Arrival" is out of this world



Photo courtesy of IMDB.com

Amy Adams stars in the sci-fi drama 'Arrival' as a linguist tasked with initiating first contact with alien lifeforms that have landed on Earth.

Movie Review



Declan Hoffman
The Dakota Student

Finally, a science-fiction based film covering the seemingly purposeless presence of an extraterrestrial species that offers more than stunning graphics of traditionally awe-inspired alien ships and sensationalized explosions atack the silhouette of him and her. Instead, what is painted atop a simple yet robust plot line in Denis Villeneuve's "Arrival" is a refreshing take on aliens coming to Earth.

When 12 extraterrestrial spacecraft, nicknamed 'shells,' make landfall across Earth, scholarly linguist Louise Banks (Amy Adams) is called upon by the U.S. army to assist in deciphering the foreign being's communication form in hopes of determining the purpose of their visit.

Banks is joined by theoretical physicist Ian Donnelly (Jeremy Renner) who will work in partnership with Banks to calculate any immediate physical or chemical threat the species may pose to the humans in the surrounding area while assisting Banks in their primary mission of deciphering the specie's communication form.

Only a few sessions later with the seven-legged aliens they call 'heptapods,' after Donnelly has tagged the two they interact with on their shell 'Abbott' and 'Costello,' hints over the emotions he holds toward Banks in their quest for finding answers about their new Earthly neighbors suggest a growing relationship with the linguist.

But make no mistake, this is not the same "little green men land on Earth and two lovers shoot 'em up before they do us" movie everyone has seen too many times before.

The movie works to parallel all of the rhetorical devices that created such an enjoyable read in Ted Chiang's short story "Story of Your Life" from which the film was based, winning three

awards for best novella in 1999 and another in 2000.

Over a period of time working with the heptapods, Banks is able to begin forming her hypotheses regarding how the strangely new circular symbolic language could be translated to the language of humans.

It becomes clear to her from very early that because of how the extraterrestrials have evolved to communicate, their cognitive ability is abnormally circular. The way the heptapods think is absent of a form of time as linear as thought of by humans which ultimately ends up playing an important part in Banks' life, the plot and the movie's themes.

The movie speaks to a realm of issues relatable to anyone's life with much greater depth than what may be initially obvious from any superficial dialogue. Perhaps what was most refreshing was seeing an over-beaten Hollywood plotline reinvented with a completely original angle, first generated by Chiang.

For Canadian director Villeneuve, this marks one of only a handful of his films that has had a release in the states, and the first with a release as widespread and during such a prime movie time as now, passing \$73.1 million in sales.

Sure, this film is not made for the masses. It likely will not mean nearly the same thing to the first viewer as it does to the second, but that's what makes it that much better for the person who it does resonate with. "Arrival" is not the cookie cutter option complete with sex, drugs, destruction and drama.

That said, there were certainly many noticeable plot and execution flaws in "Arrival" that would have been nice to be addressed in the adaptation. Perhaps these hiccups wouldn't be as noticeable in a second viewing, but they were still there nonetheless.

Never were the mistakes as severe as to take away from the experience or completely de-

stroy Chiang's original purpose which is all that matters.

What director Villeneuve is able to pull off with what may seem like a trivial cast, for all of us that prejudged the film, is nothing short of admirable and a successful complement of the short story from which it was based.

Declan Hoffman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at declan.hoffman@und.edu

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Reheating a Rivalry

Hunter Plante
The Dakota Student

When people hear that the University of Minnesota and the University of North Dakota are playing in an athletics event, they think of hockey.

North Dakota and Minnesota have a rivalry people in the area call "The Border Battle." That "Border Battle" will be renewed this Friday night in the Twin Cities. The Sports Pavilion is home of the number one team in the nation for Volleyball, the Minnesota Golden Gophers.

The Gophers head into the NCAA Tournament as the number two overall seed and co-champions of one of the toughest conferences in the nation, the Big Ten. It's safe to say it will be a very tough test for the Fighting Hawks in their first ever NCAA Division I Volleyball tournament.

The Hawks will be traveling south to Minneapolis to take on the Gophers. The four teams in the Minneapolis region will be the University of Southern California, and national powerhouse University of Hawaii



Alley Stroh / Dakota Student

Tamara Merseli (right) spikes the ball against Idaho at the Betty Engelstad Center on Nov. 5.

Coach Mark Pryor has his team playing outstanding Volleyball right now, including two weekends ago at home in the conference tournament. Hosting the conference tournament, the Hawks didn't lose a single set in three games. Those three wins were part of a now current 11-game win streak, and that has the Hawks flying high heading into Minneapolis this weekend.

UND currently sits at 26-9 overall. The Hawks will be looking to get revenge on the Gophers who already defeated

the Hawks in September, also in the Sports Pavilion. That match went four sets, with the Hawks winning the second set 25-21. If that match says anything, it's that the Gophers should be at least weary of the Hawks.

Hawks senior star Chelsea Moser was pleased when she saw the Hawks matched up with the Gophers on "Selection Sunday".

"A lot of our girls grew up watching the Gophers and playing against their players in high school," Moser said. "We'll have more

family and friends there than if we went somewhere else to play. And we had a fun time the last time we played them."

The Hawks have been very good at the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center. The Sports Pavilion is a good four and a half hours away from Grand Forks, but there might be a good chance that Coach Pryor and his squad could have a decent contingent on Friday.

"We won't have as many fans as the Gophers, but we'll have a good contingent

of fans," Pryor said. "There's some comfort level because we'll have some fans and because we have played there before. The Gophers are vastly improved from our first meeting, as we are."

The Gophers and Hawks will renew a rivalry this weekend in a win or go home match for both squads. The match is scheduled for 7 p.m. following the Hawaii-Southern California match.

Hawks fans will have to keep an eye on this weekend. The Volleyball team at 7 p.m. on Friday, the football team in a FCS playoff game at 5 p.m. in the Alerus, and the Men's hockey team in Madison Square Garden against the Boston College Eagles.

Hunter Plante is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at hunter.plante@und.edu

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